



Memorandum

To: Provosts and Chief Academic Officers

CC: TAG Coordinators

From: Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Articulation and Transfer

Date: January 29, 2021

Subject: Announcement of New Biology (Genetics) TAG Course

We are pleased to announce a New Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) course in Biology titled OSC028-Biology (Genetics).

Background:

In early 2019 the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network (OATN) held a discussion with the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways (OGTP) panel in the discipline area of Biology to explore transfer pathways. During discussion, the OGTP Biology panel recommended the creation of a TAG with a focus on Biology (Genetics). The Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network (OATN) sent out a call for statewide nominations to assist with this work. A Biology (Genetics) TAG writing panel was formulated with content matter experts to meet and discuss TAG learning outcome creation. Initial meetings lead to the evaluation of statewide research that identify department courses, pre-requisites, lab components, and institutional course credit hours.

After some discussion, the writing panel has recommended learning outcomes for the TAG area of Biology (Genetics). The proposed course will not require a laboratory component and ranges from 3-4 credit hours. Key concepts of focus include:

- I. Nature of Genetic Materials***
- II. Transmission/Patterns of Inheritance***
- III. Molecular Biology of Gene Function***
- IV. Gene Expression and Regulation***
- V. Genetic Variation***
- VI. Evolution Genetics***
- VII. Comparative Genetics/Methods and Tools***
- VIII. Genetics and Bioethics***

In October 2020, a survey request was distributed statewide to gain endorsement for the proposed new TAG course. The Biology (Genetics) TAG writing panel reviewed endorsement survey feedback and in order to address concerns expressed by some institutions, the following updates were taken into consideration:

- As a reminder, a minimum of 70% of the learning outcomes, including essential outcomes marked with an asterisk (*), must be met. The Biology (Genetics) TAG course outlines 44 learning outcomes with 23 deemed as essential. Those marked as essential must be met, however, institutions will have the flexibility to choose from the remaining learning outcomes to meet the 70% minimum.
- Updated concept six title to now read as Evolution Genetics.
- Updated learning outcome requirement on concept six to clarify Evolution Genetics. Learning outcome number two has been deemed non-essential.
- With the field constantly changing, endorsed learning outcomes will be revisited periodically (these occur every 5 years or as needed).

The results of the survey indicated that there is strong support for the creation of a course in the area of Biology (Genetics). This announcement will assist your institution with course development or refining your course to better align with transfer guarantees.

The Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network Oversight Board recommends that institutions seek course approval by the newly formed statewide faculty review panel within two years. The first submission opportunity will begin immediately and continue through fall 2023. Institutions are advised to submit their courses to the endorsed criteria as soon as the aligned courses become available. To view and download the full information for the newly created Biology (Genetics) TAG course, including the TAG submission form, please use this link:

<https://www.ohiohighered.org/transfer/tag/coursedescriptions>

We would like to thank the faculty members on the Biology (Genetics) TAG writing panel including: Brian Ashburner (The University of Toledo), Sandy Specht (Sinclair Community College), Luis A. Actis (Miami University), Anne Bullerjahn (Owens Community College), and Meghan Andrikanich (Lorain County Community College).

Thank you for sharing this memo and attachments with appropriate faculty and administrators at your institution.

If you or your TAG coordinator have any questions, please contact Jessi Spencer, Director of Articulation and Transfer Policy, Budget, and Constituent Relations at jspencer@highered.ohio.gov, (614) 728-4706;

or Michelle Blaney, Assistant Director, Articulation and Transfer Policy at mblaney@highered.ohio.gov, (614) 644-9601.

Attachments (2)